

Dear Administrator Stephen Johnson:

Cement kilns are contaminating our air, water and land with mercury pollution that you have refused to control. Your own Toxic Release Inventory indicates that cement kilns emit more than 12,000 pounds of mercury every year. While this pollution continues unchecked, dangerously high mercury levels have caused states all over the country, including Texas, to warn women and children to avoid eating fish caught in certain lakes, rivers and streams because they are contaminated with mercury pollution. The EPA estimates that 1 in 6 women of childbearing age have elevated mercury levels in their blood. Even low levels of mercury pollution *in utero* or during early childhood can impair the ability to walk, talk, read, write and learn. It's time to put an end to cement kilns free ride on mercury pollution. Please set strong mercury limits for cement kilns and require them to keep their mercury out of our air, land and water.

Honorable Stephen Johnson
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Ariel Rios Building
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460



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